

# EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

## PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. JOHN B. LARSON**

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 25, 2021*

Mr. LARSON of Connecticut. Madam Speaker, on Wednesday, May 19, 2021, I was unfortunately not present for roll call vote 149 on agreeing to H. Res. 275, Condemning the horrific shootings in Atlanta, Georgia, on March 16, 2021, and reaffirming the House of Representative's commitment to combating hate, bigotry, and violence against the Asian-American and Pacific Islander community. I fully condemn the shootings in Atlanta on March 16, 2021, and stand fully committed to combating hate, bigotry, and violence against the Asian-American and Pacific Islander community. Had I been present for this vote, I would have voted AYE on roll call vote 149.

## RECOGNIZING CAPTAIN JOHN MARSHALL BRANCH

**HON. EARL L. "BUDDY" CARTER**

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 25, 2021*

Mr. CARTER of Georgia. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Captain John Marshall Branch for twenty-six years of exceptional service to our country.

Captain Branch was commissioned in 1995 after earning a Bachelor of Science in Management from the U.S. Coast Guard Academy in New London, Connecticut.

Since then, he has over three thousand and five hundred hours of flight experience, served at six air stations, and deployed to six of the seven continents.

From 2016 to 2018, Captain Branch served as the Commanding Officer of Air Station Savannah, successfully supporting hurricane and disaster response, search and rescue, and law enforcement in the southeast, as well as air-space protection for the President and National Capital Region.

Captain Branch has a long list of military accomplishments, including the Korea Defense Service Medal, two Commendation medals, the Antarctic Service Medal, and the Achievement Medal, amongst others.

I am proud to rise today to honor Captain Branch for his leadership, and commitment to our country. I want to thank Captain Branch and his family for his service.

## INTRODUCING HOUSE RESOLUTION SUPPORTING THE GOALS AND IDEALS OF NATIONAL POPPY DAY

**HON. ANDRÉ CARSON**

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 25, 2021*

Mr. CARSON of Indiana. Madam Speaker, I rise to re-introduce a resolution recognizing and supporting the goals and ideals of National Poppy Day, May 28. The importance of this day cannot be overstated. It's a day full of respect and remembrance for servicemembers who sacrificed so much for our Nation. The poppy flower has long been a marker of respect and a way to raise awareness and support for members of our Nation's veterans communities, servicemembers, and their families. On May 28, we share our respect for their work on behalf of our country by acknowledging the poppy flower's symbolism, and by recognizing their sacrifices—all by donning our "poppy red."

The red-flowered corn poppy became symbolic as a living representation of the brave soldiers who paid the ultimate sacrifice on the fields of battle in World War I. Since that time, the red of the poppy flower—itsself a symbol of the blood shed by those who have served—has been worn as a gesture of gratitude and recognition of others' respective sacrifices for their country, in different theaters of war.

In the United States, The American Legion—and the entire American Legion Family—first called attention in 1920 to the symbolic importance of the poppy flower. At that time, near the end of the war, red-flowered corn poppies were especially linked to the poem *In Flanders Fields*, which reads:

"In Flanders Fields the poppies blow, between the crosses, row on row"

This reference, evoking images of the poppies that sprang up in the churned-up earth of newly dug soldiers' graves in parts of Belgium and France following World War I, encapsulates the symbolic importance of National Poppy Day.

I am proud to have partnered with The American Legion on this bill as their headquarters is in Indianapolis, in my district, and we invite all Members of Congress to wear their poppy red, support the goal and ideals of National Poppy Day on May 28, and pay tribute to those who have sacrificed for our country. I also invite all of my colleagues to join me in sponsoring this resolution.

## INTRODUCTION OF THE WOMEN WHO WORKED ON THE HOME FRONT WORLD WAR II MEMORIAL ACT

**HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON**

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 25, 2021*

Ms. NORTON. Madam Speaker, today, I introduce the Women Who Worked on the Home Front World War II Memorial Act, which would authorize the establishment of a memorial on federal land in the District of Columbia commemorating the efforts of the 18 million American women who kept the home front running during World War II. I thank Senators TAMMY DUCKWORTH and MARSHA BLACKBURN for introducing the companion bill in the Senate. The House passed this bill by voice vote last Congress.

As a teenager, Raya Kenney, the founder of the non-profit Women Who Worked on the Home Front Foundation and my constituent, came up with the idea of a memorial to honor the women on the home front who supported the World War II effort. She rightfully questioned why the women on the home front whose efforts were so instrumental in maintaining the stability of the country during World War II have not received as much recognition for their contributions as the men who fought bravely in World War II.

This bill would authorize the Women Who Worked on the Home Front Foundation to establish a memorial to honor these women. The memorial is designed to be interactive and to educate visitors on the important roles women played during World War II. Between 1940 and 1945, the percentage of women in the workforce increased from 27 percent to nearly 37 percent, and by 1945 one in four married women worked outside of the home. The work done by women on the home front opened doors for women in the workplace widely and had a profound effect on the job market going forward. As a result of their efforts, millions of American women on the home front redefined "women's work" and paved the way for future generations.

Many women also played critical roles in support of the war effort. More than 10,000 women served behind the scenes of World War II as code breakers. Due to the classified nature of their work, they did not receive recognition for their tireless efforts until recently. Women were also trained to fly military aircraft so male pilots could leave for combat duty overseas. More than 1,100 female civilian volunteers flew nearly every type of military aircraft as part of the Women Airforce Service Pilots (WASP) program. WASP flew planes from factories to bases, transported cargo and participated in simulation strafing and target missions. These women were not given full military status until 1977, and it was not until 2010 that they were recognized with the Congressional Gold Medal.

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

Women have been historically underrepresented in our memorials, particularly the memorials on federal land in the nation's capital. It is fitting to authorize a memorial that would allow millions of visitors to D.C. to understand and honor the heroic efforts of these women and their lasting impact on the fabric of our society.

I urge my colleagues to support this bill.

RECOGNIZING MR. RAVINDER  
SINGH SHERGILL

HON. DAVID G. VALADAO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 25, 2021*

Mr. VALADAO. Madam Speaker, I rise today in honor of the life of Mr. Ravinder Singh Shergill, who passed away on April 22, 2021.

Mr. Shergill was born on September 12, 1956, in Punjab, India. At the age of seventeen, he immigrated to the United States and later graduated from UC Berkeley with a Bachelor of Science in Electrical Engineering. He went on to work for National Semiconductor for more than three decades. As an engineer, Mr. Shergill held patents involving disk storage and helped create the USB specifications. As a manager, he admired and respected as a mentor to his colleagues. His story is truly an embodiment of the American Dream.

Mr. Shergill had a great appreciation for America, but he never forgot his roots. He was committed to bridging the Sikh and American communities together and was a founding member of the Sikh Youth of California and America.

Mr. Shergill is remembered as a caring husband, father, and grandfather with a love for books, history, music, and film. He is survived by his wife, Grace Rosa; his children, Simren, Kiren, and Kevan; and his grandchildren Leena, Mary, Samuel, and Briya.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives to join me in honoring the life of Mr. Ravinder Singh Shergill. Our thoughts and prayers are with his family and friends during this difficult time.

HONORING NEW YORK'S BRAVE  
FIRST RESPONDERS, PARA-  
MEDICS, EMERGENCY MEDICAL  
TECHNICIANS

HON. ELISE M. STEFANIK

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 25, 2021*

Ms. STEFANIK. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor New York's brave First Responders, Paramedics, and Emergency Medical Technicians as we celebrate National Emergency Medical Services Week. I recognize the great impact and sacrifice our EMS providers make to keep our communities safe.

EMS systems provide lifesaving care and are an integral part of our communities'

wellbeing. Emergency medical responders are first on the scene of what is often the worst days of people's lives. Despite the great physical and mental toll, EMS providers continuously put the care of others before themselves. Their selfless perseverance and rigorous training allow them to be prepared for any situation. I am profoundly grateful for all those who choose to serve our community in this way.

The 21st Congressional District of New York is home to the oldest continuously run commercial ambulance service in the country. Guilfoyle Ambulance was established in 1907 and is currently owned and operated by Bruce G. Wright. The first ambulance was a horse drawn carriage and the business now boasts 16 ambulances. Today, Guilfoyle is certified at the Paramedic level and provides basic and advanced life support transportation as well as Paramedic service for over 8,500 requests and over 600 transports each year. The company operates in the majority of Jefferson County, including Fort Drum, as well as in some neighboring towns in St. Lawrence, Lewis, and Oswego Counties. Guilfoyle is just one of the many critical components of our EMS systems in the 21st District.

On behalf of New York's 21st Congressional District, I am proud to represent thousands of hardworking EMS providers and I am honored to recognize them on this National Emergency Medical Services Week. I thank them for safeguarding our community.

CONGRATULATING UNIVERSITY OF  
COLORADO'S SENIOR STRATEGIC  
ADVISOR AND FORMER VICE  
CHANCELLOR, FRANCES DRAPER,  
ON HER RETIREMENT

HON. JOE NEGUSE

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 25, 2021*

Mr. NEGUSE. Madam Speaker, today I wish to honor and thank a Boulder Colorado trailblazer: Frances Draper. It's hard to distill such a luminous human into a few short paragraphs. Frances is equal parts tough and kind; cooperative and indomitable; pragmatic and optimistic. "There's a pony in here for everyone," is Frances's way of pointing out that by working together—by seeking to collaborate rather than divide—we can almost always get to win-win outcomes.

In her role at the University of Colorado-Boulder, Frances reimagined and transformed the way that the city and the University collaborate, and ushered in a spirit of teamwork in town-and-gown relations that serves as a model for our Nation. She has served as a beacon of opportunity and decency in our community, representing the university and the city with honor, integrity and humanity.

Prior to joining the university, Frances was Executive Director of the Boulder Economic Council, manager of the Sun Microsystems business and finance line for General Electric, and a legislative aide to Harrison Schmidt, U.S. Senator from New Mexico. Frances has lived in Boulder for close to 40 years, during which time she served on crucial local boards such as Foothills United Way, Naturally Boul-

der, I Have a Dream, and Boulder Rotary. She was also instrumental in establishing CO-Labs, a consortium of Colorado-based research laboratories.

Neither the city of Boulder, nor the University of Colorado-Boulder, would be what they are today without Frances' wisdom, generosity, and tireless advocacy. Frances is the kind of person who makes the world a better place as she goes, and in doing so, inspires those around her to rise similarly to that endeavor. Boulderites and CU Buffs will forever stand on Frances' shoulders, and on the shoulders of those she inspires. On behalf of Colorado CD-2, I thank and honor Frances Draper for her countless contributions to our community.

RECOGNIZING MAY AS SAVE YOUR  
TOOTH MONTH

HON. JANICE D. SCHAKOWSKY

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 25, 2021*

Ms. SCHAKOWSKY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Save Your Tooth Month. This month celebrates Americans saving their natural teeth and recognizes the "savers"—endodontists—who make this possible.

The more than 5,000 endodontists in the U.S. play an important role in providing oral health care throughout our country, spread awareness about practicing good oral hygiene, and emphasize the value of retaining one's natural teeth and smile.

Endodontists are dentists that specialize in diagnosing and treating tooth pain and performing root canal treatment. Following the dental school, endodontists have completed an additional 2 to 3 years of advanced training. This gives them enhanced precision, making them highly skilled in performing complex treatments.

Teeth are a gateway to nutrition, a sign of emotion, and a signal of overall good health. We all feel better when our teeth are clean and pain-free. And although dentures can work well and have improved significantly, they are never as good as a full set of natural teeth. Our natural teeth are worth saving, and endodontists focus their careers solely on doing just that.

Nothing looks, feels, or functions like your natural tooth. Regular brushing and flossing, along with 6-month check-ups from your dentist, can help you keep your teeth for a lifetime. It is worth the extra few minutes each day to maintain good oral hygiene.

If you do experience issues with your teeth, seek out proper dental care. In particular, if you have tooth pain, you can seek treatment from an endodontist. Endodontists use the most current and advanced technology to treat dental patients.

It should be noted that it is extremely safe to visit the endodontist during the COVID-19 pandemic, with endodontists practicing the utmost caution and disinfection protocol. Even at the height of America's spring 2020 shutdown, most endodontic practices remained open to safely treat dental emergencies.

Thank you to all the endodontists for your dedicated work in helping us maintain our natural teeth. Happy Save Your Tooth Month.